

## Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 ISO-00 IO-14 OIC-02 INT-05 COME-00  
DLOS-09 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-20 /116 W  
-----119389 260838Z /10

R 252332Z MAY 78  
FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7206  
INFO AMEMBASSY LIMA  
AMEMBASSY MEXICO

UNCLAS PANAMA 03702

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: EFIS, XM, PN  
SUBJECT: LATIN AMERICAN ECONOMIC SYSTEL (SELA)

1. U.S. DELEGATION TO THE SECOND SESSION OF THE WESTERN CENTRAL ATLANTIC FISHERIES COMMISSION (WECAFC) MET WITH JUAN CARDENAS, SELA'S OBSERVER TO THE SECOND SESSION OF WECAFC. CARDENAS IS THE SECRETARY OF SELA'S ACTION COMMITTEE ON MARINE AND FRESHWATER FISHERY PRODUCTS.

2. THIRTEEN LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES ARE CURRENTLY PARTICIPATING IN THE FISHERIES ACTION COMMITTEE AND TWO MORE ARE CONSIDERING MEMBERSHIP. THE COMMITTEE WAS ORGANIZED IN OCTOBER 1977 AND THE CURRENT PROGRAM OF WORK WAS APPROVED IN DECEMBER 1977 WITH A 1978 BUDGET OF DOLS 300,000 NOT INCLUDING SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE PERSONNEL OF PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES. THE COMMITTEE IS SEEKING TO COORDINATE UNIFIED REGIONAL ACTION ON COMMON ECONOMIC PROBLEMS.

3. EIGHT PROJECTS HAVE BEEN APPROVED FOR THE 1978 WORK PROGRAM. THEY INCLUDE:  
(A) INVESTIGATION OF HORSE AND JACK MACKEREL AND SARDINES;  
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(B) EVALUATION OF FISHER SPECIES IN LAKE TITICACA;

(C) STUDY THE POSSIBILITY OF A JOINT PROJECT TO EXPLOIT TUNA;

(D) STUDY OF THE SHRIMP BY-CATCH PROBLEM;

(E) ESTABLISHMENT OF A REGIONAL AGRICULTURE CENTER;

(F) A STUDY OF LOW-COST PRODUCTS. INCLUDING PROCESSING AND CONSUMPTION PROBLEMS;

(G) DEVELOPMENT OF QUALITY CONTROL STANDARDS;

(H) ORGANIZING REGIONAL SYSTEM OF TRAINING COURSES.

4. IN ADDITION THE FISHERIES ACTION COMMITTEE IS ALSO INVOLVED IN THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS:

(A) PREPARATION OF A DIAGNOSIS OF THE FISHING INDUSTRIES OF LATIN AMERICA TO DETERMINE THE MAJOR PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED BY THE PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES AND FORMULATE REGIONAL POLICIES TO ALLEVIATE THOSE PROBLEMS;

(B) PREPARATION OF A PERIODIC REPORT SUMMARIZING THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN WORLD FISHERIES;

(C) REVIEW OF POSSIBLE SOURCES OF FINANCING FISHERY DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES. THE ACTION COMMITTEE HAS BEEN WORKING CLOSELY WITH THE ASSOCIATION OF LATIN AMERICAN FINANCIAL DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTES (ALTDE) WHICH IS IN CONTACT WITH OVER 100 FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS IN LATIN AMERICA.  
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5. THE ACTION COMMITTEE IS ALSO ORGANIZING A SERIES OF SEMINARS ON REGIONAL FISHERY ISSUES. THESE INCLUDE:

(A) FISHING AGREEMENTS AND JOINT VENTURES (HELD IN MARCH 1977);

(B) AGRICULTURE (WILL BE HELD IN LIMA DURING JUNE 1978);

(C) ARTISANAL FISHING (WILL BE HELD IN TEGUCIGALPA IN SEPTEMBER 1978);

(D) EXPORT MARKETING (THIS SEMINAR IS BEING ORGANIZED BY THE FAO/UNDP FISH MARKETING SERVICE HEADQUARTERED IN PANAMA AND DESCRIBED IN REFTEL). JORDEN

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FISHERIES MEETINGS, COMMITTEES, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)  
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Sheryl P. Walter  
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